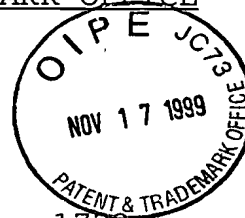


#2
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 016794/0383



In re Patent Application of
Siegfried MATUSCH et al.

Serial No. 09/301,624 Group Art Unit: 1723

Filed: April 29, 1999 Examiner: Unassigned

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CLEARING THE CRYSTALLINE
 MATERIAL OUT OF A CENTRIFUGE BASKET

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

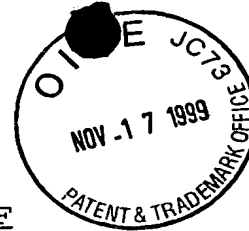
Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

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Serial No. 09/301,624



CONCISE EXPLANATION OF
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A3 (German No. 42 11 254) was cited in an Office Action in the corresponding German priority application. Documents A1 and A2 (U.S. Patent No. 5,252,202 and U.S. Patent No. 5,338,459) correspond to Document A3.

An English translation of Document A3 is not readily available; however, an English language abstract is provided herewith. The absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

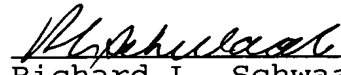
The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), before the mailing of the first Office action on the merits.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

November 17, 1999

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